

LOUISIANA WILD LIFE AND FISHERIES COMMISSION

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P R O C E E D I N G S

BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, June 21, 1977

10:00 o'clock a.m.

DOYLE G. BERRY,  
Chairman

Wild Life and Fisheries  
Building  
400 Royal Street, Room 102  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.



Helen R. Dietrich, Inc.  
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P R O C E E D I N G S

. . . The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Louisiana Wild Life and Fisheries Commission convened on Tuesday, June 21, 1977, at 10:00 o'clock a.m. in Room 102 of the Wild Life and Fisheries Building, 400 Royal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana, Doyle G. Berry, Chairman, presiding. . . .

PRESENT WERE:

DOYLE G. BERRY, Chairman

DONALD F. WILLE, Vice Chairman

J. C. GILBERT, Member

HARVEY CLAY LUTTRELL, Member.

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A G E N D A

1. Approval of Minutes of May 13, 1977. (4)

MR. TED O'NEIL

2. Setting of the 1977-78 trapping season. (4)

MR. JOE HERRING

3. Setting of the 1977-78 seasons and bag limits (5)  
on resident game.

MR. KENNETH SMITH

4. Discuss bid opening for construction of boat (39)



ramp at Crawford Landing, Pearl River  
Wildlife Management Area.

OTHER BUSINESS

5. Report on legislation.

NOTE: The following items not on the printed  
agenda were also considered:

Trapping statistics. (36)

Dove season. (37)

Additional capital projects, Fiscal  
Year 1976-77. (42)

Discussion of raccoon bag limits. (43)

Committee appointments. (47)

July meeting dates. (48)

Discussion re Middle Fork area, Bayou  
d'Arbonne. (49)



THE CHAIRMAN: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen.

The first item on the agenda is approval of the minutes of May 13, 1977. Do I have a motion?

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

Mr. Ted O'Neil. Ted, you've only got half a sentence here. It surely can't take you over one minute to tell me about this.

MR. TED O'NEIL: Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen of the Commission, I am going to just recommend the easiest way out on this trapping season, it looks like.

THE CHAIRMAN: I am glad you said that, with the press sitting here, Ted.

(Laughter)

MR. O'NEIL: No, the press won't publish



that. Oh, I bet they do!

Mr. Chairman, I am going to recommend that we open the trapping season on all furbearers statewide December 1 through February 28, 1978. December 1, 1977 through February 28, 1978.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, you have heard Mr. O'Neil's recommendation. Do we have a motion?

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. O'NEIL: Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Joe.

MR. JOE HERRING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me get our maps up here and get started on our hunting season recommendations here.

While Jerry is getting the maps up, I would like to say a lot of work has gone into setting these seasons. Some of the correspondence



starts over a year ago on these, and we already have a file, you might say now, set up for '78-'79 and the '79-'80 season, so this is not something that has just all of a sudden come up one day and put together and say this is the hunting season.

Not only correspondence, we have had a lot of resolutions from different clubs, police juries, letters from individuals. We had the public hearing in Monroe where we had a lot of input from people coming in, giving the Commission their thoughts on the season, and then we had our regulations committee meeting of the Commission and we have had various meetings of our own field staff in putting some of this together. So, there is a lot of work and effort involved, you might say, in putting together what we have today.

We have very few changes from last year. I think a lot of the hunters were fairly happy with last year's seasons, and there was no reason why they shouldn't be, because Louisiana has some of the longest seasons now in the United States and we feel like we are a harvest state and as long as we can have these long seasons and not hurt the



resource or the population, we will certainly recommend that we have them, so this is what we have today, some seasons similar to last year.

Mr. Chairman, we can break it down three ways -- our resident game -- and we have the maps up here, so in going through all the details we won't do that because the black area marks out all the roads and the boundaries. We will request that our court recorder over there be given a copy for the minutes, as we set the seasons here, and I would like to request that they be put in the minutes in their entirety.

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr. Herring have there been any boundary changes from last year?

MR. HERRING: Yes, we will go through that. Let's get the quail, rabbit and squirrel first. Quail, November 24-February 28. That is the same as last year as far as the season, just moved the date backward one day to get onto the date there.

Rabbit, October 1-February 28.

Squirrel, October 1-January 8.

Bear, October 22-October 30, and that



is moving it one week forward.

Deer will be the same, one per day, six per season. Turkey, as far as the bag limit, will go with one per day and three per season.

That would be the small game, plus just giving the bag limits for the big game there, Mr. Chairman.

Next we will get into the deer seasons, and this is what you just asked if there were any changes in the boundaries. We have one change. That will be in Areas 1 and 6. We had quite a few requests from the northeast corner, up in here (indicating on map) where we now have Area 6 to shorten that season. They have been asking it for years, to shorten the season there, so this year we have broken it off from Area 1 which had a longer season and did make it Area 6. Last year we had five areas, so that will make us this year come back with Area 6, which will be East Carroll and part of Madison Parish.

We will just go through them, since you can see the road boundaries, like last year.

Area 1, 56 days. That will be nine days,





November 12-20, still hunt; 17 days, November 25-December 11, with or without dogs; and 30 days, December 17-January 15, with or without dogs.

Area 2 and Area 3, those two areas have the same dates and the reason they broke off from Area 5 in here is Area 5 is all still hunt. Area 2 and 3, 19 days, November 5-23, still hunt; 17 days, November 25-December 11, with or without dogs; and 16 days, December 17-January 1, with or without dogs.

Area 4. Florida Parishes, 52 days. 19 days, November 5-23, still hunt; 10 days, November 25-December 4, with or without dogs; 23 days, December 17-January 8, with or without dogs.

Going back again, this is all still hunt in this Area 5. There is no dog hunting in there. The days then would be 19 days, November 5-23, still hunt; 17 days, November 25-December 11, still hunt; 16 days, December 17-January 1, still hunt.

In little Area 6, just 33 days, November 25-December 11, with or without dogs; and 16 days, December 17-January 1, with or without dogs.



Mr. Chairman, those areas have been combined as much as possible, the dates all opening practically the same there, trying to get everything in line together with the openings. We can go through the doe seasons now in those areas.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, when are you going to print with this?

MR. HERRING: We will turn these over as soon as possible to Roger. He usually tries to work up our brochure there every year, and we are going to try and get them out like we did last year, prior to the season. That is why we went into this two-part there.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I know you will get them out prior to the season, but I am looking at the legislature, another three weeks of the legislative session. I am looking at some bills that are going to be in opposition to what we have here, prohibitions or allowances, and I was just wondering if timing could be coordinated here, so that the new additions or deletions could be incorporated into this.

MR. HERRING: We might just have to hold



up a few days or come back and change it later on.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I was just wondering what your time frame was.

MR. HERRING: We usually normally as soon as we get these start turning them into the printer as quick as possible so they can start setting the type because this is just one segment of the overall brochure, when you start putting your fishing seasons in, shrimping, other rules and regulations.

MR. WILLE: Joe, I will make you a deal. If you get in a bind by holding it up for the legislature, I will set the type for you. Free.

THE CHAIRMAN: I'll bet you can read it without your glasses if he sets it, too.

MR. WILLE: You are damned right you can read it without your glasses.

MR. HERRING: We are going bigger, Mr. Chairman; we are getting bigger and bigger.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: I was particularly concerned about the "Hunting - General Provisions," where we say "Taking game quadrupeds or birds from aircraft, automobiles or moving vehicles is prohibited," I think this bill will pass dealing with



the taking of coons from a moving vehicle and would need to be included in there.

MR. HERRING: And there might be a bag limit we have got to come back on, too, on coons.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: That is another observation I have made on the first page.

MR. WILLE: But I will set it free, Joe.

MR. HERRING: Well, we can kind of feel this thing out and talk to the printer up there. Actually, for those, they can go ahead and set all the type and then come back and make changes in it before they go to press, the last printing, so they can have it set but pull out certain things and put in others.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Give Roger that information, though.

MR. HERRING: We certainly will. Thank you for bringing it up. We will certainly have to do that.

O. K., the doe seasons then. This map here (indicating), the areas that do have some type of color around the boundaries are the areas designated for doe seasons. The legend on the right-hand side gives the number of days and on



the right-hand side of that, the color gives the date itself. Like Area 1, this is a little area around Thistlethwaite Wildlife Management Area, just one day, around that boundary there for a doe season. Area 4 in the green is December 17-20, and the pink area in here is December 17-23, which is seven days, and the purple area, two days, December 17 and 18. The orangeish area here, which is Madison, Tensas and Concordia Parish, through there, it is December 17-19 and December 31-January 1. The brown area is the big still hunting area of the state in one block. We have two days in there. One day of it is on the first day of the still hunt and one day on the first day of the dog season, in that whole area. The blue area here in Ouachita and Caldwell Parishes part of it, one day, November 5, and that is during the still hunt.

That is basically the deer season there, Mr. Chairman. Does anyone have any questions to ask on that? If not, we will go on to the turkey season.

MR. WILLE: Joe, I want to make a recom-



mendation, as per the resolution of the Police Jury up there, expressing their wishes on this thing, like eliminate the doe days in Bossier Parish.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Wille, our recommendations, this is them for the doe season. We feel like for the hunters themselves, to keep them dispersed out over the whole area, we have some other resolutions there requesting not to have any doe seasons, and a lot of people are against doe seasons biologically. We have had them. We have built up our kill during the last 20, 25 years, from about 5,000 deer a year to somewhere between 75- and 80,000 by having doe seasons, and we feel like this is a very biologically sound recommendation to keep our herds in control and keep a good breeding population of animals in these areas, and if we would start breaking out some areas, those people that hunt there are going to another area and from that then we would certainly have crowded conditions in some, whereas if we keep all of these areas as recommended and keep as many of them open as possible, it is going to disperse more of these hunters out. We feel like we are managing the



resource there as well as managing the hunters at the same time and keeping them dispersed out.

It would just be our recommendation, Mr. Wille, to leave it in.

MR. WILLE: Well, I have got to respect the jury and the petition signed by about 2500 people up there. We have got kind of a unique situation up there, Joe, within the parish that we have a lot of private landowners that are getting a lot of damage done during these doe days. They feel like there are a lot of deer that are shot that are wasted and left in the woods.

They came to me and asked me to do it, so I am going to go on their recommendation. I am going to make a motion that we do eliminate doe days in Bossier Parish. Do I get a second?

THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion by Mr. Wille. Do we have a second on that? A second to Mr. Wille's motion?

(No response)

The motion dies for lack of a second.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, as you are describing your game management areas, talking about



like Bohemia or Caney, any one of them, and we are putting in parentheses who owns the property, if it is Department-owned and what-have-you, if it is not going to be a big problem, I would like to see added next to it the size of the area, 29,000, 15,000, 60,000, whatever it is.

MR. HERRING: That would be mighty fine. I have got a good man taking notes over here. I know he is going to write it down. Where are you, Jerry?

I might just to the Commission here compliment Jerry Farrar and some of these fellows that have really put some time in on working on these maps and working up these seasons. Jerry and Dan Dennett, after all these meetings they would take the notes and basically put all this together, so I certainly want to thank them for the excellent job they have done on handling all of this.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I would like to thank you on behalf of the Commission and myself for the work you have done on it.

MR. HERRING: There is a lot of work in this thing and the only thing I am doing is pre-





senting it. Those fellows have done all the footwork on it.

That can be put in real easy, Mr. Angelle.

The next thing then is the turkey season. This is basically what we had last year. We do have some additions. We did add a little piece down over here in LaSalle Parish and then some over in the northwest corner, as far as this big Area A goes. You will recall that Area A is one that we came back to the Commission prior to the season last year and added a whole bunch in and then added some over in the eastern part of the State, too.

Basically, after the Commission had added, what this map amounts to is about the same boundaries as we had last year with some increases. We did break the Florida parishes up here into a C and I area because over in the I part of it, the populations are heavier than they are over in the eastern part of the Florida parishes, so we provided for a little longer season there.

Area E, up here, they do have a longer season than they had last year because they do have



some excellent turkey populations up in that area. That is one that we stocked several years back and the turkeys have done real well. We did trap turkeys off there one time to stock some of the other areas of the state, so that is a change there for a longer season in that part.

Around Area G it was increased in size because of the growing turkey populations in there.

Outside of that, Mr. Chairman, that is the dates, as you can see, and the number of days in each one. Each area gives the number of days and then the dates, starting dates and closing dates on each one of them.

Does anyone have any question on the turkey season only?

THE CHAIRMAN: I believe Mr. Wille wanted to back up.

MR. WILLE: I need to back up again on deer, Joe.

MR. HERRING: Yes, sir.

MR. WILLE: My other recommendation that I was going to make, and I am sorry I forgot about it, was that we take Loggy Bayou game preserve and



make it into a --

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, we were just fixing to get on the Wildlife Management Areas, and since Loggy Bayou would be in there, if you have got anything else on deer outside of Wildlife Management Areas, we can back up, but if it would be on the Wildlife Management Area --

MR. WILLE: I am sorry. Go ahead, Joe.

MR. HERRING: OK, we have got the turkeys. Any questions anyone has about the turkey season, either from the floor or anywhere else?

THE CHAIRMAN: I am sure Jimmie Thompson will have something when he sees these.

MR. HERRING: Jimmie ought to be happy with that season. That's a good long one. That will run him to death.

MR. LUTTRELL: I am sure Jimmie has the same problem I had this year. Every time he found a turkey he ran it off, but he finally did get one. I never did get one.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, on the Wildlife Management Areas there will be some recommended changes. Basically all the seasons are the same,



all the hunting seasons. Naturally whatever the seasons are on the outside, we have to come in and work these seasons into the Wildlife Management Areas, so there are just a few recommended changes.

One is that on State-owned Wildlife Management Areas, like our Saline Area, our Russell Sage Area, Red River, Three Rivers, Loggy Bayou, any of these areas where we have trapping going on at this time, that we would start charging these trappers a 10 percent fee for the fur take in these areas. They are commercial. They are trapping on a Wildlife Management Area, selling these furs, and this would be the same operation that we have been conducting for years on Marsh Island, Rockefeller, some of the coastal areas. These are State-owned. It is not like the hunters going in and hunting deer free over their hunting license. They are not selling. The other is a commercial endeavor so we would like to recommend to the Commission that we work up a system on there, which we are going to take the same one as Rockefeller and Marsh Island and those, and charge a 10 percent fee.

We realize that this is on an honor



system with the trappers. We hope that we can still get the information that we are getting now but we feel like this would be a good recommendation to make.

The next one would be permanent blinds and decoys on the areas. We have had some problems where people come in and hunt ducks one day, they leave their decoys out and then they come back the next day and they claim that area. Our Wildlife Management Areas are all on a first-come, first-served basis, and when a guy leaves that afternoon he can pick up his decoys, and if he gets there first the next morning, he can put them back out, but otherwise we are going to require him to pick them up at the end of each day so that area he hunted that day is going to be a free spot the next morning for whoever gets there first.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Joe, under commercial fishing, we are saying on three or four of our game management areas that permits are required for commercial fishing. This does not necessarily mean that on other game management areas commercial fishing is prohibited, does it?



MR. HERRING: No, sir. We normally go ahead and let the commercial fishing, especially on areas we don't own, and on others we require just a permit. We don't charge them anything, now. I want to make that clear. We never have charged them.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: But they are not specifically prohibited on other game management areas even though a permit is not required?

MR. HERRING: No, no.

OK, the muzzle-loading season then, we will have it scheduled for Ouachita Wildlife Management Area, Spring Bayou Wildlife Management Area and West Bay Wildlife Management Area, three areas kind of dispersed over the state. That gives them pretty much one in north Louisiana, one in central Louisiana, and one in south Louisiana.

We are clarifying the camping prohibited for more than 16 consecutive days on our Wildlife Management Areas. We have been having some trouble with one or two areas where people come out and pitch up a tent and it seems like they want to live there the whole year then after that. That



is probably the only home some of them have, it looks like, but anyhow this will take care of some of that. They cause a litter problem. They don't help keep up the camping areas and things, so we would like to have a 16 consecutive day limit, and after that they just have to pull out and they might come back in a few days.

Tire size, in the past we have had 900x16 tires. Now the reason for the tire size is that some of these big vehicles do rut up the roads very bad and smaller vehicles can't get in there after certain four-wheel drives have been in there and put big deep ruts in the road and also then it is a maintenance problem on us, having to keep these roads after the season.

We have always had a 900x16 on a lot of our lowland areas where they do a lot of road damage, especially on our back roads. We have checked with the tire manufacturers and tried to come up with some reasonable recommendation on this that would cover a lot of the good wide tires and keep tractor tires and the great big tires out from rutting up the roads real deep. One suggestion is

just that we come up with a tire size 34 inches tall and leave out all that other because it looks like a lot of the manufacturers now are going into something they call a 700x14 and it is bigger than a 900x16. A lot of it just doesn't make sense. I think it is a way the manufacturers are getting around other regulations in other states.

So, after talking with some of the tire dealers and manufacturers, we are just saying 34 inches, and this will cover anything we have had in the past. It is not eliminating anything, the 900x16's in the past, but it just puts a height on the tire now to keep it from going too deep.

Waterfowl on our Wildlife Management Areas, for the Wildlife Management Areas on the upland areas we are recommending closing at 2:00 p.m. We had a lot of comments from people that right at noon on some of them was a good shooting time and they would like to hunt through noon, so we are going to extend that to 2:00 p.m. to give them a chance to hunt through the noonday period there. On the lowland areas, the marsh areas, we will still go ahead and cut off at 12:00 noon.





That is what all the clubs in the marsh do and it will correspond to typical marsh hunting there.

Gentlemen, I think that is most of the recommended additions or changes which have come through the committee. The rest of the Management Area seasons, we can go through them, you have a copy there and can read through them and look over the ones, one by one. We won't go through them one by one up here. Basically they are the same as last year. There is probably a change in a date on it because we had to correspond with the outside season, as we did last year. We will make that change in adding the size of the area.

OK, now Mr. Wille, you had a question to ask on the Wildlife Management Areas?

MR. WILLE: Yes, on Loggy Bayou Wildlife Management Area, do we have a gun hunt in there?

MR. HERRING: Loggy Bayou, deer, November 25-December 4, bucks only, season permit, gun hunt. All small game, same as outside except closed during the gun hunt for deer and still hunt only.

MR. WILLE: I am going to recommend that



we close it except for bow hunting. I so move.

MR. LUTTRELL: I second his motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye.

MR. YANCEY: Just a minute.

THE CHAIRMAN: OK, Dick. The Chairman feels like that might be a little unfair to the gun hunters.

MR. YANCEY: Let me make one comment. Loggy Bayou is a Commission-owned Wildlife Management Area bought with the sportsman's dollar, and at the time it was purchased we told the hunters up there that all groups of hunters would be allowed to use this area to hunt for the different types of wildlife that we had on the property, and at no time did we ever tell any group of hunters that they would be excluded from the use of that area.

Now under these proposed regulations, archers would be allowed to use the area and hunt either sex deer beginning October 1 and running right on to the end of the deer season. All this provides for is to allow the gun hunter the 10-day



bucks only season on the area. We had a gun season on the area before and when we set it we got some objections from the archers. They alleged that there would be people shot and killed on the area and that the deer herd would be eliminated, and after that gun season was over, it was quite obvious that neither one of those occurrences took place. There was nobody shot. There were only a few bucks killed, and it gave the gun hunters an opportunity to go in the area and enjoy hunting.

There is certainly no biological reason for excluding gun hunters on Loggy Bayou. They didn't hurt the deer herd when they were allowed in there before and they didn't impose on the use of the area by the archers because the archers were allowed on the area beginning the first Saturday in October.

THE CHAIRMAN: In addition to what Dick is saying, Don, I am afraid if we do this we will be severely criticized by the gun hunters because it is public land, and I think next year you will have a lobby of gun hunters who want to keep bow hunters out of there. I am afraid you will open a



Pandora's box when you do this. Of course, it is certainly your right as a Commission member to do it.

MR. YANCEY: These game management areas, we are trying to operate them so all groups of hunters would have the use of them and not the exclusive use of a game management area by one group of hunters that may use one type of weapon. The archers are allowed on all the game management areas and we think that game hunters should be allowed on all the game management areas and that we shouldn't begin to break these down and let the muzzleloaders have some game management areas, as they would like to have, and the archers have other game management areas.

We would like to recommend that the area be left open as scheduled for ten days for gun hunting, bucks only.

MR. LUTTRELL: Joe, don't we have three areas in the state in which we have a muzzleloading season only?

MR. HERRING: Those will have regular gun seasons and the muzzleloading seasons will be



in between.

MR. LUTTRELL: That's correct, but they do have --

MR. HERRING: They can hunt in there but it will be in between, after your regular rifle shotgun season.

MR. LUTTRELL: Yes, I know, but the point I am getting at, Mr. Chairman, is that the muzzle-loaders have three areas in which they can hunt when they are not disturbed by anyone else. Now Loggy Bayou is a small area and at one time it was open strictly for bow hunters and the gun hunters were not allowed in there, and it is still a small area and the bow hunters are pushing us to hunt all over the state.

MR. WILLE: How many people have you got on that petition, Joe?

MR. YANCEY: There is one other point about Loggy Bayou. The size of Loggy Bayou has been increased substantially since that original archery season only was allowed.

MR. WILLE: Forty-two acres, wasn't it?

MR. YANCEY: No, around 1,000 acres.



MR. WILLE: A thousand acres?

MR. YANCEY: Yes, sir.

MR. LUTTRELL: How many acres do we have in there, all told?

MR. YANCEY: Well, I would presume it is around 3,300, 3,500 acres. It has been almost doubled in size and there is a good deer herd in there. The only mistake I think we are making in this thing is not allowing the gun hunters at least one either sex day. We are limiting them to bucks only. There is a real high deer population on Loggy Bayou and it is certainly not being controlled at this time.

Jerry, do you have any comments on that?

MR. JERRY FARRER: A parasite count was run on the thing a couple of years ago. This was designed by the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study. The level of parasites affects the health of the deer. We found those deer to be pretty well loaded and there is a frank doubt in our mind as to whether archers will be able to control the deer herd safely.

This area, however, speaking for the



archers, they do enjoy a good bow kill. Their kill is equal to the gun kill. We don't know how it will go either way but we do know we did find those deer in less than optimum health when we did check them, and in need of control.

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Chairman, let me ask Dick one question. How many days do the archers have on this area?

MR. YANCEY: Well, they will start hunting on October first and they can hunt either sex deer right on up until the gun hunting season opens on November 25, and then it would be bucks only for archers as well as gun hunters during that period, and then it would reopen to archer hunting, either sex, right on till about the first of January. We can't see where their rights to hunt on the area are being infringed upon at all.

THE CHAIRMAN: When we start scheduling these special interest groups, we are going to wind up with a lot of problems down the road.

MR. GILBERT: Mr. Chairman, as a substitute motion, I move that this resolution be tabled at this time.



THE CHAIRMAN: We have a substitute motion. Do we have a second?

MR. LUTTRELL: I will second that motion.

THE CHAIRMAN: We have a second by Mr. Luttrell. All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So tabled.

Joe, you were looking for something?

MR. HERRING: I was just looking at the correspondence on Loggy Bayou. We had about five or six requests in there to keep Loggy Bayou, that is specific requests, and then a lot more just blanketed in, to keep it a bow area.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Thank you, Joe, you did a good job.

THE CHAIRMAN: I will say one thing, Joe. You withstood the tide pretty good, with all these changes at the last minute, and I can tell by the copy that I have that has been stapled and unstapled nine times that there have been a few changes made, but I think you and your department have done an





excellent job and I want to compliment you for a job well done, myself and also for the full Commission.

MR. HERRING: I will say that the staff and the girls who did a lot of typing on this thing did all the typing and our men put it together, and we thank them.

MR. WILLE: Joe, have you ever done any research toward making a later deer season? That is the biggest complaint that I have been getting.

MR. HERRING: Well, we have a legislative framework. We can't go past January 20, anyhow. Normally by this time they are deep in the rut and they start losing some of the antlers, I mean more, they start at the end of our own season, and it would be better even to have it earlier than later.

MR. WILLE: Did we eliminate the spikes this time?

MR. HERRING: We kept the antlers -- that is one thing we didn't bring up -- it was kept the same as last year, visible antlers. There were a lot of requests, Mr. Wille, to do away with the visible antlers, go back to the three-inch, but when



we started the visible antler hunts, it was agreed that we would do it three years and then see what the results were on our deer herds and evaluate this and see where we would go from there, and so we finished up our second year. We will be into our third year this year, so that is the reason we recommended to go ahead.

After this year we will look at it. We have been looking at it and have really found no detriment. Now John Newsome at LSU is keeping up with a lot of the club areas. We are keeping up with the data on the Wildlife Management Areas, so we can consolidate this data on the three-inch antlers and present this to the Commission prior to setting the next season. But, since we had recommended three years, that is the way it is going.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Joe.

I would entertain a motion to adopt the hunting seasons as recommended by the biologists.

MR. LUTTRELL: I so move.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Luttrell. Do



we have a second?

MR. GILBERT: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Seconded by Mr. Gilbert.

All in favor say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

(The full text of the  
hunting seasons and bag  
limits rules and regula-  
tions, 36 pages, as  
adopted by the Commission  
above, is appended hereto  
and made a part hereof.)

NO HIATUS HERE.



THE CHAIRMAN: Let me say this, Ted. I perhaps cut you off a little quickly a while ago, unintentionally. I wish you would give the members of the press a list of the harvest that you showed us yesterday afternoon at the meeting. I think it is worthwhile for them to print that and for the public to be aware of the increase in harvest we have had in trapping over the last year or so. I think it is noteworthy and worthwhile and shows that we are going the right direction.

MR. YANCEY: One more thought, Doyle, about these doe seasons. I know that several of the Commission members have gotten requests that doe seasons be cancelled in one area or another around the state and I think in returning these calls it would be wise to point out to these people that have complained that these particular dates better consolidate doe days in Louisiana than any season the Commission has ever set.

In the past we have set doe seasons for one area to open up during one period and then two weeks later we would have a doe season open up in another area, which led to concentrations of hunters



moving from one area to another, but this year these proposed either-sex days, if you will notice on this chart, all begin December 17, so we are going to have a better distribution of deer hunters on these doe days than we have ever had before in this state, and I think that this is going to tend to reduce some of the complaints and the problems that we have had in the past with concentrations of hunters building up in different parts of the state as these either-sex days open.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Dick. Kenneth.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Ken, before you go up to the podium, let me ask Dick, are you in a position for the benefit of the Board, and off the record as far as the press is concerned, being that our dove season is going to be the first thing that is going to be opening, probably in the early part of September, do we have any framework that is tentatively set. I know we are going to be setting that season probably at the July meeting, but I have had a number of requests already, people wanting to know, starting to make their plans for vacation and what-have-you, for the dove season. Could you give



us what is going on?

MR. YANCEY: Well, the first meeting relating to doves will be held in Washington, I believe next week. Isn't that right? Oh, today, yes. At that point we will find out approximately what the proposal is for the number of hunting days and bag limits.

We should be in a position to set the dates for the dove season at the Morgan City meeting held in July, now realizing that those are going to be tentative dates. Those are going to be the proposed regulations published in the Federal Register that you are going to be working on, and they are subject to change by the federal people. But the plan is to set those dove season dates at the July meeting of the Commission.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Do we have a framework here?

MR. YANCEY: Well, the framework normally is September 1, begin September 1, and we don't expect any change. That is already proposed as the basic regulation. We don't expect any change in that.



MR. LUTTRELL: Dick, at that same meeting, will we be able to set the season -- did we decide we were going to have a season for teal?

MR. YANCEY: Yes, you will set the September teal season at the same time, and then you will set your dates on waterfowl hunting on up in the middle or late August, towards the latter part of August, when you will set the duck season.

We will set everything but the duck season, rail, woodcock, snipe --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: At the July or August?

MR. YANCEY: July meeting. The framework will come into us. We will have to set it by July 25. We feel like after this meeting today we will get the right framework.

MR. KENNETH SMITH: Mr. Chairman and Commission Members, I brought this matter to the Commission's attention at the May meeting. It concerns the boat ramp we are trying to build on Crawford Landing over at Pearl River Wildlife Management Area.

We had originally gotten an estimate from Public Works for approximately \$62,000 for this



particular ramp, so we went ahead and set up \$70,000 to allow for overrun. When the bids came in, the low bid, the lowest of two bids, was \$83,000. Public Works recommended that it be rejected and that it be readvertised.

Well, they have done so and we recently received a notice that they would open bids on July 6. This would put us into the next fiscal year and our capital funds would not be available at that time. So, we contacted the people back and I just got word this morning that they are going to move the bid opening date to June 28 and by a little fast shuffling here I believe we can get this project under contract in time to go ahead and spend this money.

Now what I would like to ask the Commission if you would authorize the Director to approve these bids when they come in so we can go ahead and move on them, providing of course the money and everything else is in line. I think we can go ahead and get the money obligated.

MR. GILBERT: That will be the lowest responsible bidder?





THE CHAIRMAN: That will be the lowest responsible bidder approved, gentlemen. I will entertain a motion for that.

MR. GILBERT: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Mr. Wille. All in favor, say aye.

IN UNISON: Aye.

THE CHAIRMAN: Any opposed?

(No response)

So ordered.

MR. SMITH: I would like to mention a couple more things I think may be of interest to the Commission, too. We have three other capital projects which we are trying to beat the deadline on and I think that we will.

The Office of Facility Planning Control on June 23 will open bids on about nine acres of fish hatchery ponds up at Monroe. On the 28th they will open bids on the Toledo Bend research station, also some fish holding and sorting sheds at Monroe. Facility Planning Control normally processes, they receive these bids and they go ahead and award the



contracts. This is somewhat different from Public Works' procedures but it has worked OK in the past and we have not had any problem with them, and since we are pretty close to the deadline, I would recommend of course that we go ahead and have Facility Planning Control follow the usual procedure to award the bid. We are right at the deadline here now, and they can go ahead and keep this thing moving. We have had no problem with it in the past, handling it like this.

So, just for your information, it looks like we will get these other three projects under way this year.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Kenneth.

I believe Mr. Herring had something else he wants to say there.

MR. HERRING: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Angelle brought up a few minutes ago about the legislature. Maybe we ought to have some clearance on that from the Commission now so that if anything is changed, he or someone have the OK to go ahead and put this in without another meeting, because this is a legislative thing, anyhow, and whatever we have to come



up with on coons, they might say we have to have a bag limit and --

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, if it comes from the legislature, Joe, I don't think he has any control over it. I would like to put the monkey on his back, but I don't think --

MR. HERRING: No, we are not doing that, but if they say a bag limit, we might have to come up with a bag limit without bringing it back to you or something like that, just real quick. That is what I am thinking about on that. Some of them, it will be a law, but some of them, they will leave open for us to do something.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I will entertain a motion to give the Secretary the authority to set the bag limits on any laws that might be passed by the present legislature.

MR. YANCEY: We talked about this yesterday and we said when this bill becomes law we would publicize it, the fact that the Commission is going to set a bag limit, and let the people that want to have some say about it do so.

MR. LUTTRELL: I think we had better do



that.

THE CHAIRMAN: Dick, the only thing is this, in order to get this thing printed up and get the material out in timely fashion -- and if I am wrong, Joe, correct me, please -- if we are going to go to press with these things, we have to get them as soon as we can, and if we wait until after the legislature gets through with it and then the Commission has a meeting and then we get the public input and whatever and then give it to him, he ought to get this year's hunting regulations out about the middle of next year.

MR. YANCEY: Well, I would recommend you have a public meeting, that is my recommendation. I don't think you can set a limit without giving people a chance to be heard.

MR. HERRING: Well, the legislature is over in July. You can do it at the July meeting then.

MR. LUTTRELL: We will get trimmed good if we do that.

THE CHAIRMAN: It wouldn't be the first time I had been trimmed!



MR. HERRING: We should have them all out by the July meeting.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: If we anticipate the legislature doing that, then I think we should look, and I am looking for it here, where it says "No bag limit," -- where did you see this?

MR. HERRING: Under raccoon.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: "No closed season, no bag limit." Maybe we could just leave that language out in anticipation --

MR. HERRING: And then come back to the Commission and set --

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Come back to the Commission and set your rules and regulations.

MR. HERRING: After we get the input. All right, we can get the input and then come back and do that.

MR. YANCEY: You have got lots of time for the Commission to set a bag limit. After it becomes law, the Commission can publish the agenda and let the Coon Hunters Association people come in here and make some recommendations.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: O.K., you are saying



this won't be going to the printer until about August?

MR. YANCEY: You have got ample time to set bag limits on raccoons at a regular Commission meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir.

Report on legislation. We got some information on that yesterday, informally.

I would like at this time to appoint our various committees for the coming year.

Our Deer Committee will be Mr. Sonny Gilbert, Mr. Luttrell, Mr. Wille.

Pollution Committee will be myself, Mr. Lapeyre, Mr. Luttrell.

Mineral Committee will be myself, Mr. Jones, Mr. Dupuy.

Quail Committee will be Mr. Dupuy, Mr. Wille, Mr. Sonny Gilbert.

The Shrimp Loan Committee, which I hope we don't have to use again, will be Mr. Marc Dupuy, Mr. Lapeyre, Mr. Wille.

I have an extra copy for anyone who wants a copy of these committee appointments.



DIRECTOR ANGELLE: And the first man of the committee acts as chairman of that committee?

THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, sir, unless they get among themselves and want to change it. No problem with that.

On July 11 and 12 our next meeting will be in Morgan City at the Municipal Auditorium. At that time there will be some discussion on a new Wildlife Management Area we are proposing in the Atchafalaya Bay Area. I would appreciate the news media particularly making note of this so we can have some input there and hopefully have a crowd with some input in Morgan City. We welcome you all to come down. That is where I hail from, the Morgan City-Berwick area, and if I can help any of you while you are there, don't hesitate to call on me.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Is that a three-day meeting, Mr. Chairman?

THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we can have it for four or five days, if you want to, Burt! You know our folks like to party and have a good time down there, and we will get it on if you all want to



do it. Just come when you will; we are always glad to have you.

Is there anything else to come before the Commission this morning? This gentleman wanted to speak. Will you come up, sir?

MR. FONTENOT: I am with the Wildlife Federation and back in January we had requested that a survey be done on the Middle Fork area of Bayou D'Arbonne, which is in the Scenic Rivers and the Kisatchie Forest and Wildlife Management Area. I just wanted to thank the Commission and the staff for an excellent job in putting that together. We received a copy from Dick and we just appreciate your assistance in that.

If you haven't received a copy, I believe Dick is putting some together or already has, maybe.

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Willie, you realize that Representative Weaver has introduced a referendum authority for the people in that area as to whether the river should come out of the Scenic Rivers System?

MR. FONTENOT: Right. I haven't seen the bill yet and I am not sure -- do you know if it is





for all the scenic rivers or just specifically Middle Fork?

DIRECTOR ANGELLE: Just that particular one. It is a referendum to see what the people want. You know, it is a hot political potato up there, and I guess they are trying to find out how the people feel. You may want to use the information you have.

MR. FONTENOT: Well, the information has been made available and I think will greatly assist people in being able to evaluate the importance of that stream to that area, because it just points out the importance of the hardwood forest up there.

I thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, sir. Glad to have you with us.

Is there any other business before the Commission this morning?

(No response)

I will entertain a motion that we adjourn.

MR. LUTTRELL: So move.

MR. WILLE: Second.

THE CHAIRMAN: Moved and seconded. So



ordered.

. . . Whereupon, at 11:10  
o'clock a.m., Tuesday, June  
21, 1977, the meeting of the  
Commission was adjourned. . . .

Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.



C E R T I F I C A T E

I, the undersigned reporter, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the above and foregoing ( 51 pages of typewritten matter) is a true and correct transcription of the tape recording and of the stenographic notes of the proceedings herein, transcribed by me, at the time and place hereinbefore noted.

New Orleans, Louisiana, this 24th day of June, 1977.

Kathryn G. Chamberlin  
Kathryn G. Chamberlin,  
Reporter.

